A. REMARKS

After this Preliminary Amendment is entered, claims 21-40 are in the case. Support for the above claims can be found in the originally filed specifications and the figures. Specifically, support for a network-based codec can be found at line 15, page 10 - line 18, page 14 and in Figures 2-4. Support for a speech codec that includes a data processor that has a memory for storing the speech can be found at line 21, page 12 and line 4, page 13 and in Figure 3. Applicants believe that the claimed invention is in proper form for allowance and request allowance of all claims.

B. CONCLUSION

The Applicants request the preliminary amendment be entered. The Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned at the telephone number indicated below if further clarification is desired.

Respectfully submitted,

Matthew J. Kell

Registration No. 42,716

BRINKS HOFER GILSON & LIONE P.O. BOX 10395 CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60610 (312) 321-4200